

recruitment and hiring by the Department of Veterans Affairs of health care workers that are undergoing separation from the Armed Forces, to create uniform credentialing standards for certain health care professionals of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2295, a bill to extend the termination date for the authority to collect certain record and make permanent the authority for roving surveillance and to treat individual terrorist as agents of foreign powers under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 and for other purposes.

S. RES. 148

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 148, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

AMENDMENT NO. 2811

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2811 proposed to H.R. 2297, an act to prevent Hizballah and associated entities from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 2296. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand workplace health incentives by equalizing the tax consequences of employee athletic facility use; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2296

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Workforce Health Improvement Program Act of 2015".

#### SEC. 2. EMPLOYER-PROVIDED OFF-PREMISES ATHLETIC AND FITNESS FACILITY SERVICES.

(a) TREATMENT AS FRINGE BENEFIT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 132(j)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Gross income shall not include—

"(i) the value of any on-premises athletic facility provided by an employer to the employees of the employer, and

"(ii) so much of the fees, dues, or other membership expenses paid by an employer on behalf of the employees of the employer for membership in or use of an athletic or fitness facility described in subparagraph (C) as does not exceed \$900 per year per employee on behalf of whom such amounts are paid.".

(b) ATHLETIC OR FITNESS FACILITIES.—Paragraph (4) of section 132(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) ATHLETIC OR FITNESS FACILITY.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), an athletic or fitness facility described in this subparagraph is a facility—

"(i) which provides instruction in a program of physical exercise, offers facilities for the preservation, maintenance, encouragement, or development of physical fitness, or serves as the site of such a program of a State or local government,

"(ii) which is not a private club owned and operated by its members,

"(iii) which does not offer golf, hunting, sailing, or riding facilities,

"(iv) the health or fitness component of which is not incidental to its overall function and purpose, and

"(v) which is fully compliant with applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws.".

(c) EXCLUSION APPLIES TO HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES ONLY IF NO DISCRIMINATION.—Paragraph (1) of section 132(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking "Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a)" and inserting "Subsections (a)(1), (a)(2), and (j)(4)", and

(2) by striking "EXCLUSIONS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) AND (2)" in the heading and inserting "CERTAIN EXCLUSIONS".

(d) EMPLOYER DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 274(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The preceding sentence shall not apply to amounts to which section 132(j)(4)(A)(ii) applies.".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The last sentence of paragraph (4) of section 274(e) of such Code is amended by striking "subsection (a)(3)" and inserting "the first sentence of subsection (a)(3)".

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 315—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF BOTH NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY AND NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH BY PROMOTING NATIONAL AWARENESS OF ADOPTION AND THE CHILDREN AWAITING FAMILIES, CELEBRATING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INVOLVED IN ADOPTION, AND ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO SECURE SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. THUNE, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LEE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr.

WYDEN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. ERNST, and Mr. SCOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 315

Whereas there are millions of unparented children in the world, including 415,129 children in the foster care system in the United States, approximately 108,000 of whom are waiting for families to adopt them;

Whereas 62 percent of the children in foster care in the United States are age 10 or younger;

Whereas the average length of time a child spends in foster care is approximately 2 years;

Whereas for many foster children, the wait for a loving family in which the children are nurtured, comforted, and protected seems endless;

Whereas, in 2014, over 22,000 youth "aged out" of foster care by reaching adulthood without being placed in a permanent home;

Whereas every day, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas a 2007 survey conducted by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption demonstrated that although "Americans overwhelmingly support the concept of adoption, and in particular foster care adoption . . . foster care adoptions have not increased significantly over the past 5 years";

Whereas while 4 in 10 people of the United States have considered adoption, a majority of the people of the United States have misconceptions about the process of adopting children from foster care and the children who are eligible for adoption;

Whereas 50 percent of the people of the United States believe that children enter the foster care system because of juvenile delinquency when, in reality, the vast majority of children who have entered the foster care system were victims of neglect, abandonment, or abuse;

Whereas 39 percent of the people of the United States believe that foster care adoption is expensive when, in reality, there is no substantial cost for adopting from foster care and financial support is available to adoptive parents after the adoption is finalized;

Whereas family reunification, kinship care, and domestic and inter-county adoption promote permanency and stability to a far greater degree than long-term institutionalization and long-term, often disrupted, foster care;

Whereas both National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month occur in the month of November;

Whereas National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to find permanent, loving families for children in the foster care system;

Whereas, since the first National Adoption Day in 2000, nearly 54,500 children have joined permanent families during National Adoption Day;

Whereas, in 2014, nearly 400 events were held in the United States finalizing the adoptions of approximately 4,500 children from foster care;

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month; and

Whereas National Adoption Day is on November 21, 2015; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of both National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and all throughout the year.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 316—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KIRK, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 316

Whereas November 16 through November 20, 2015 marks the 94th annual observance of American Education Week;

Whereas public schools are the backbone of the democracy of the United States, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain the precious values of freedom, civility, and equality;

Whereas, by equipping young people in the United States with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, public schools give young people hope for, and access to, a productive future;

Whereas people working in the field of public education, including teachers, higher education faculty and staff, paraeducators, custodians, substitute educators, bus drivers, clerical workers, food service professionals, workers in skilled trades, health and student service workers, security guards, technical employees, and librarians, work tirelessly to serve children and communities throughout the United States with care and professionalism; and

Whereas public schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults, children, educators, volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of American Education Week; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe American Education Week by reflecting on the positive impact of all those who work together to educate children.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 317—COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE AMERICAN VISIONARY ART MUSEUM

Ms. MIKULSKI submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 317

Whereas the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland, opened on November 24, 1995;

Whereas, in 1992, Congress designated the American Visionary Art Museum as the national repository and education center for visionary art;

Whereas the American Visionary Art Museum—

(1) is the first museum in North America that is wholly dedicated to assembling a comprehensive national collection of visionary art;

(2) perseveres due largely to the leadership of its founder, Rebecca Alban Hoffberger, who built the idea of assembling a comprehensive national collection of visionary art into an institution;

(3) encourages art as a means of expression for at-risk youth and other individuals who are often overlooked;

(4) seeks to end the stigma associated with disability by illuminating the power to overcome the adversity associated with disability through creativity;

(5) educates, inspires, and entertains over 125,000 visitors each year; and

(6) continues to fulfill its mission to increase awareness of uncommon art that is created out of extraordinary circumstances; and

Whereas it is in the best interest of the national welfare and each United States citizen—

(1) to preserve visionary art; and

(2) to celebrate visionary art as a unique art form: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 20th anniversary of the opening of the American Visionary Art Museum; and

(2) reaffirms that visionary art is a rare and valuable national treasure to which individuals in the United States should devote attention, support, and resources to ensure it is collected, preserved, and understood.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 318—TO AUTHORIZE DEPOSITION TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN CARE ONE MANAGEMENT LLC, ET AL. V. UNITED HEALTHCARE WORKERS EAST, SEIU 1199, ET AL.

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. REID of Nevada) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 318

Whereas, in the case of *Care One Management LLC, et al. v. United Healthcare Workers East, SEIU 1199, et al.*, No. 2:12-cv-06371, pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, testimony has been sought from Rachel Pryor, a former employee in the office of Senator Richard Blumenthal, relating to her official responsibilities;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent former employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That Rachel Pryor, former employee in the Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal, is authorized to testify in a deposition in the case of *Care One Management LLC, et al. v. United Healthcare Workers East, SEIU 1199, et al.*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Ms. Pryor in connection with the testimony authorized in section one of this resolution.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2812. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2577, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

SA 2813. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*.

SA 2814. Mr. CORKER (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2815. Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*.

SA 2816. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2817. Ms. MIKULSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*.

SA 2818. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2819. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2820. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2821. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2822. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2823. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2824. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2825. Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2812 proposed by Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED) to the bill H.R. 2577, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2826. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to